

: Philip Victor PEPLOW et al. Confirmation No: 4712

Appl. No. : 10/517,378 Filed : June 15, 2005

Title : ORTHOPEDIC MATERIALS DERIVED FROM KERATIN

TC/A.U. : 1653

Examiner : Marsha M. Tsay

Docket No.: PEPL3001/JEK/ESS

Customer No: : 23364

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Official Action of August 30, 2006, in connection with the above identified application. The period for response to this Official Action has been extended to expire on November 30, 2006 by the filing herewith of a Petition for a Two Month Extension of Time and payment of the required fee.

The Official Action is a restriction requirement in which it is urged that there are four separate and distinct inventions claimed in this application. Applicants elect the Group II invention which includes claims 46-48, drawn to a product comprising S-sulfonated keratin and hydroxyapatitie in a weight ratio ranging from 1:0.1 to 1:2, processed to form a porous spongy material, wherein the S-sulfonated keratin is optionally treated with reducing agent, without traverse. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications on the non-elected inventions at a later time.

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Amendment dated: November 29, 2006

Reply to OA of: August 30, 2006

In view of the election of the Group II invention, without traverse, an early and favorable action on the merits is now believed to be in order and is most respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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November 29, 2006